

**SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN**

October 23, 2006

7:00 PM

Mayor Guinta called the meeting to order.

Mayor Guinta called for the Pledge of Allegiance, this function being led by

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Roy, Gatsas, Long, Duval, Osborne, Pinard, O’Neil, Lopez, Shea,
DeVries, Garrity, Smith, Thibault and Forest

Messrs.: C. DePrima, M. Thibeault, Solicitor Clark. R. Sherman,
V. Lamberton, K. Sheppard

Mayor Guinta advised that the purpose of the special meeting is consideration of
recommendations submitted by the Special Savings Task Force.

Alderman Garrity moved to accept the recommendations. Alderman Pinard duly seconded
the motion.

Alderman O'Neil stated I guess the biggest part or largest dollar amount was the...I guess the
correct title is Municipal Deferred Maintenance, which made up almost ¼ of what was
recommended. I think we received some communication on that and it affected some pretty
important projects in my opinion going on in the City. I think there were a couple at the
Police Station if I recall, the flooding problem at Information Systems, City Hall Tax
Collector floor condensation and I think that was based on somebody falling and there was
an exposure to the City there. I am just not sure if...I understand where this whole thing was
going but I am not sure those were the best places or if that particular line item in CIP was
the best place to make those cuts. I would just like to open that up for some discussion. I am
looking at the Information Systems flooding problem, Police Computer Room fire
suppression, Calef Road drainage improvements, Police Station heat pump replacement, City
Hall Tax Collector floor condensation problem and I guess the one that is...unless we are
told there is some issue with the Crystal Lake bathhouse, the structural assessment, I don’t
know if that is worth moving forward or if there is some...I am not aware that there was an
issue there but maybe there is. I know we did get a response from the department on that.

Alderman Lopez stated I want to know if we can go item by item or else we are just going to maybe get confused. So if we can go down the line I think it would probably help the process. Is that okay with you?

Mayor Guinta replied sure.

Alderman Lopez stated the Info Bank, the correspondence that we received or in the correspondence to us you didn't give us any details.

Mayor Guinta stated there is actually no budget reduction for the Info Bank.

Alderman Lopez stated okay. Next we have Hazard Tree Removal from Parks. Is there anyone here from Parks & Recreation? I think we received your correspondence in reference to that. If this money is taken away could you elaborate a little bit on how that is going to affect the tree system?

Chuck DePrima, Deputy Director, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery responded yes. In 1989 a survey was done of all of those trees in Manchester. Not stem by stem but an overall assessment was done of the street trees in Manchester and there were 2,000 trees that were determined to be hazardous meaning that they had a very high risk of falling and causing personal injury, property damage and things like that so we have been using that money...it is more than our three person street tree crew can handle on a regular basis so we usually contract out the work to private contractors in the winter months when they are slow because we can get a better price for that. That is what that money is for.

Mayor Guinta stated say that again. We have existing personnel to do this job and we utilize them plus we contract out?

Mr. DePrima answered that is correct. Our crew is very small.

Mayor Guinta asked why don't we find a way to make that crew more efficient then.

Alderman Lopez asked in Veteran's Park we had an individual on a volunteer basis doing the fountain over there and all of the work necessary and the complaints we had about the lighting in the park because it was too dim and people didn't want to walk through the park...could you elaborate on that a little bit.

Mr. DePrima asked on that account as well.

Alderman Lopez answered yes.

Mr. DePrima stated that is an account that we have that is a cash account that allows us to respond in a timely manner to specific Aldermanic requests or requests of the Mayor's Office or requests of residents regarding projects like that. We use the money to replace lights in the parks and upgrade things to make them safe. An example is we used some to buy bleachers for the South Jr. Deb field because theirs were unsafe and kind of falling apart. Thing like that and they are being utilized by a private friends group of the Civil War Memorial at Veteran's Park to help improve and upgrade that.

Alderman Shea stated when I call the Highway Department because there are limbs going into the road and they can't see and they come, is that part of the hazardous tree removal program. If there is a storm and on Porter Street because of the storm there are several trees knocked down and they are in the middle of the street is this part of that?

Mr. DePrima responded no it is not. The hazardous tree project allows us to avert things like that by trying to address the trees that may fall during a storm.

Alderman Shea asked give me an example of how the hazardous tree removal money is utilized and when it was utilized if you could please.

Mr. DePrima answered sure. Each year in the winter months and early spring when those companies are slow due to a slow down in residential and other commercial projects we will bid the project out and just like any other bidding process that we do for any of our other projects. We will hire a crew and they will go to take down the more severe trees – trees that are too large for our crew to handle because they have equipment we don't have. It addresses the more dire needs that our crew can't get to because sometimes they are addressing the things that need to be addressed immediately like storm blow downs and things like that. Sometimes those people are out in the spring lining ball fields and things like that. So they are not always able to address things.

Alderman Shea asked so in the past the \$40,000 was requested because that is what you utilized in the past or is that a low ball or a high ball in terms of how much you have spent in that budget.

Mr. DePrima answered we usually ask for a lot more than that. Usually we get about \$45,000.

Alderman Shea asked and last year just by way of recollection did you spend the whole \$45,000 or did you return some to the City.

Mr. DePrima answered we spent the entire amount.

Alderman Shea asked so you spent the entire amount because of the problems that existed and I can see why.

Alderman Forest asked how many men do you have cutting trees and all of that on a regular basis.

Mr. DePrima answered we have one Arborist and then we have two people on the crew that are feeding the chipper and supporting that position.

Alderman Forest stated and again you contract in the wintertime for storms where a lot of trees may go down and that is what that \$50,000 is about.

Mr. DePrima responded no it is more to prevent those trees from coming down. We try to address them before that happens. Trees that we feel are more vulnerable than others.

Alderman Forest stated I know we no longer have the large tree out in front of City Hall Plaza but I remember a couple of years ago when that tree ended up halfway down Market Street. Your two guys were here pretty much for the better part of a week just trying to remove that tree and get it out of the way correct.

Mr. DePrima responded yes.

Alderman Thibault stated I am concerned more about the insurance liability that the City would have if these trees were on City property, sidewalks and this is the kind of thing that I seem to face in my area. I have some trees, not a lot but some that are, I believe, dangerous to be there because they are so large and they are falling apart if you will. They are slowly deteriorating and I worry more about the insurance and the exposure that the City has on some of these trees. I wonder how do we address that? I don't know if you do in what you people do. Let me tell you this, your Honor, the Highway Department has also been extremely beneficial to me whenever I have had to have brush cleaned out from areas. They have been highly responsive in taking care of these things. I am looking at trees that I feel are dangerous to the homeowner or to the street if you will but it takes like two or three months for them to get to it because I am sure they have a lag that is probably a lot larger than I would like to talk about tonight.

Mr. DePrima responded we have a considerable list.

Alderman Thibault replied I am sure. There are many trees in this City and I can understand where they have to go out with a contract for some of these things because I am sure that some of them their equipment would not be able to reach.

Mayor Guinta asked do you know if there have been any claims against the City due to hazardous trees.

Mr. DePrima answered I don't know the answer to that.

Alderman Duval asked can you tell me the crew that you have dedicated to...well I should ask the question do you have a dedicated crew to tree trimming and cutting and maintenance or do they have other responsibilities to the Parks & Recreation Department.

Mr. DePrima answered they do have other responsibilities. In the spring time when we are trying to get the athletic fields up and ready for the spring season a lot of times we will have to pull those guys off the tree crew to line ball fields and to groom fields and things like that. So they do have other responsibilities sometimes and in the winter they are plowing.

Alderman Duval stated I am trying to understand this and I don't mean to belabor the point but the number of times that I have called and we have a lot of trees up in the Hanover Hill area and the times I have called the Parks & Recreation Department it is always we will put it on the list and try to get to it as soon as we can unless it is a tree that apparently is proposing an imminent threat of coming down. It sounds like the crew that you have dedicated to this operation has a list that goes on for some time. That was my recollection when I called the Parks & Recreation Director.

Mr. DePrima replied that is correct.

Alderman O'Neil stated Alderman Duval was talking about Hanover Hill. A tree across the street from my home...I wasn't involved with the call but the neighbor made the call. It was after a pretty significant limb had come down during one of the high winds, missed a number of cars and Parks came over and assessed it and when they went to cut it down a good portion of the core of the tree, and I don't know if that is the right word, was hollowed out from the squirrels. The tree turned out to be a hazardous and it was something that couldn't wait until the wintertime so they had to take care of it themselves. I know this goes on throughout the City. We are a City of trees.

Alderman Pinard stated I would like to comment on the crew. Just a month and a half ago on Norman Street a tree fell down on a Saturday. I had to make a decision about leaving the tree there until Monday. The Police Department asked for my judgement on it. My judgement was to get the tree out because it was a hazard. Those two young men who went over there and cut the tree and branches were done in less than half an hour. Those guys deserve credit because they don't go out on a job and just stand there. They get it done and get it done fast. I think that we should look at this because some of these trees are brought down by an act of God. Well we are lucky to have people dedicated enough to come out on a Saturday afternoon and clean the debris that is in the middle of the street.

Alderman O'Neil asked your Honor can I get clarification on something. Chuck if this money was eliminated there still will be tree cutting in the City by our City staff right? There will just be less trees to get to and that is the bottom line.

Mr. DePrima answered correct.

Alderman O'Neil asked if you do 100 a year currently you will only do whatever that number is.

Mr. DePrima stated since the study was done we have removed 227 hazardous trees.

Mayor Guinta asked and when was the study done.

Mr. DePrima answered the study was done by the Cooperative Extension Service in 1998.

Alderman O'Neil stated my question is it will still get done but the number of trees that get addressed will be less. That is the bottom line. We will still have a crew dedicated to cutting trees.

Mr. DePrima replied yes.

Alderman O'Neil stated you mentioned that you have a contract. Do we have a contract that says we pay them X amount of dollars or is it based on when they actually perform the service?

Mr. DePrima replied it is bid out and then it is usually a lump sum bid. We define in the bid what the scope of work is and they bid on it and give us a price and if it falls within the budget we sign the contract.

Alderman O'Neil asked so do we have a clause to get out of it meaning even though they haven't performed the service we still don't owe them \$20,000. If this \$20,000 is recommended to be reduced do we still owe that tree company that sum of money?

Mr. DePrima answered the contract has not been signed yet. We usually bid that out in February because those guys are slow and we seem to get better prices on the bids for that.

Mayor Guinta stated I just want to clarify. Are you saying we are averaging around 30 trees a year?

Mr. DePrima replied yes.

Mayor Guinta asked and the team of three that we have can't somehow fit that into their schedule.

Mr. DePrima answered those are the trees that we have removed by contract. That is not what our crew has done.

Mayor Guinta stated that is what I am saying. If we eliminate...and again we are not looking...the recommendation isn't to eliminate all of the money but 50% of the funds. So are you saying to me that the 30 trees on average a year that we are contracting out cannot be somehow handled by the existing three-man crew that we have today? They are working 40 hours a week out straight cutting trees?

Mr. DePrima replied they are not working 40 hours cutting trees. Those three individuals are occasionally, when called to be, performing other tasks as the City requires.

Mayor Guinta stated so we are talking less than a tree a week and we can't get one tree a week into the schedule of this crew.

Mr. DePrima replied we can certainly look at that.

Alderman Roy asked Chuck your special project line item for \$45,000, what is that set aside for. The last line of your budget line item. It just says special projects for \$45,000 in your regular operating budget.

Mr. DePrima answered I don't have that in front of me. What is the project number?

Alderman Roy replied it just says 898, line 898, Parks & Recreation, Special Projects, \$45,000.

Alderman O'Neil asked where are you Alderman in their operating budget.

Alderman Roy answered yes. It just surprised me because normally any of your special projects are on the CIP budget and there is an additional \$45,000 there. I have had neighbors use your hazardous tree removal and I think it is a fantastic program but this is all about setting priorities so as the Mayor just stated when we look at a tree a week or less than a tree a week...trees are expensive to remove and you guys do a fantastic job...I have seen them work and as Alderman Pinard said they show up and get it done and leave the homeowner or the taxpayer happy when they go home. I would look to go ahead and move from this item to another and ask that you make up that \$20,000 in your operating budget and possibly from that special projects line item or your equipment line item of \$51,000 that has also not been encumbered at all.

Alderman Thibault stated my question was and I would still like to have an answer, what is the City's liability whenever it causes property damage. That is what I am looking for.

Mayor Guinta replied you would probably have to ask Harry Ntapalis.

Thomas Clark, City Solicitor, stated generally the City's liability for trees is small. We have immunity for streets and sidewalks.

Alderman Thibault stated well 90% of the trees that are hazardous are on sidewalks.

Solicitor Clark responded but they don't belong to the City. The trees belong to the property owner.

Alderman Thibault asked even if the City planted them.

Solicitor Clark answered yes. If something comes down it goes to the homeowner's liability insurance.

Alderman DeVries stated I am referencing the letter that was sent out in response to this and about halfway through the first paragraph it is talking about the funds to repair the walkway at Arms Park after the floods last spring and that the Park Improvement Program paid for the sink hole repair. Do you happen to know how much of the \$19,500 that you have already spent went to that particular line item and do you also know whether or not you expect reimbursement for any of those expenditures?

Mr. DePrima replied the total cost of that repair was approximately \$26,000 of which we have received 75% reimbursement.

Alderman DeVries asked so have you reimbursed this line item.

Mr. DePrima answered it was actually reimbursed to the 2006 account.

Alderman DeVries asked so the reference...it is saying 510807 has \$19,500 spent and this letter is leading me to believe that part of that expenditure was for that repair. You are saying that is not correct?

Mr. DePrima answered I think that was just an example of what funds like that have been used for.

Alderman Forest stated I think and if I recall at the beginning of this conversation Chuck said his department doesn't have the equipment to remove them. They are either too big or too high. Thirty trees a year is not many. I can lose that many on one street in a storm on my

side of the river. I just want to explain...I know I have seen their trucks go out and they only go to a certain height. I am just wondering if we have a tree that is let's say 40 feet who is going to cut it. Do you have the equipment to cut it and remove it?

Mr. DePrima replied I can't speak to the exact criteria of the specific trees that we can and cannot remove. What I can tell you is that we have a very competent arborist but there are limitations to what we can do. Some trees require a crane. Some trees are far too close to a house or some other structure or power lines that we can't effectively address with our crew.

Alderman Forest stated I can give a prime example of that and I know FEMA may pay for all of it but I saw your crew and Highway and a few other departments involved for about two weeks trying to remove a couple of trees out of the Piscataquog River that floated down river. I know you had to rent equipment because you didn't have the equipment to move some of those trees that were lodged up against that trestle. I think that something like that would come under this amount of money.

Alderman Smith stated I was going to bring this up because it was quite a devastation in Ward 10. Some of the people in Ward 10 during the big storm did not get out of their houses for three days because numerous trees and lines were down and they had to have added personnel there. So in case of emergency I don't know what you are going to do. In regards to the equipment, some of the trees are so high and so dangerous that you have to get experts to do it. I have asked them many times to take care of obstructed stop signs and cut down a limb and they say we will go over and look at it and if it is a live tree we will really have to look at it because sometimes you want the tree down. They are pressed. You say one tree a day. It is very, very dangerous. If anybody has seen Public Service when they are clearing the wires it takes them quite awhile to do it and with three men and for the whole City there must be 10,000 trees. I think it is a safety matter and I am on the Safety Review Board and I will bring this up to Harry. I would just like to point out that not only the trees when they do come down but then we have the Highway Department come out for stump removal and to pave it for one tree. It is quite a process that you have to go through.

Alderman Garrity stated Chuck I want to go back to where Alderman DeVries was going for Arms Park. You said that came out of your 2006 budget out of the Parks Improvement Program and you got reimbursed 75%. What was the total amount again out of your 2006 budget?

Mr. DePrima replied approximately \$26,000.

Alderman Garrity asked and you were reimbursed 75%. I know you were at CIP tonight and it is pretty much 100% that has to go to the full Board. Tell me how does that happen. Are you going to reimburse this year's Parks Improvement Program or what? You were

reimbursed 75% and if you get the other 25% will it go into this year's Parks Improvement line item?

Mr. DePrima answered correct. There were items that we could not address that spring because of it so those things were deferred to the 2007 start-up and we addressed them at that point so there is an overlap of 25%.

Alderman Garrity asked but the Parks Improvement Program will be reimbursed an additional 25% right for this fiscal year's budget once you get the additional funds from the state and the federal government.

Mr. DePrima answered yes.

Alderman Garrity asked what is that amount.

Mr. DePrima answered it was \$26,000 and we have been reimbursed roughly \$20,000 so far so an additional \$6,000.

Alderman Osborne stated I am on the same line as Alderman Forest and Alderman Smith. There are trees out there that are huge but I guess we have a \$20,000 balance that we are leaving in there correct and then you are subtracting \$20,000. How does Parks & Recreation feel about this particular situation? What is your feeling or Ron's feeling? Do you think you can handle this? If you had to go out there for an emergency and there were a couple of large trees that you couldn't handle do you think this is appropriate?

Mr. DePrima replied I think Ron's response was fairly clear to the recommendations. Will we still be able to address dire emergencies? Yes we will. This is more a tool for us to go out and take down the trees that either our crew can't normally handle or can't get to because they are assigned to other duties. So we will be handicapped by that amount but we will still address hazardous trees as we are able to.

Alderman Osborne asked if it does go over this \$20,000 amount where would the monies come from if it does happen and they need more than this \$20,000.

Mayor Guinta replied they would have to decide whether they are going to identify funds within their own budget or come back to this Board for additional monies from contingency or other accounts that we would have available.

Alderman Shea stated I noticed that someone, one of the Commissioners I guess, would like to speak to the Board if you would allow it.

Mary Thibeault, UNH Cooperative Extension, stated I didn't actually plan to come up and speak next to Chuck but we worked with the City in 1998 to do the tree inventory that Chuck was speaking of and I just wanted to get a few numbers clear. Just the street trees that Parks & Recreation are responsible for number 40,000. Their standing value along the street is \$50 million and there is a two-person tree crew to deal with that. That doesn't count all of the trees in the parks, cemeteries and all of the other public spaces that Parks deals with. I just wanted to be clear that there is a huge issue out there and the money and the time that the two-person tree crew spends is to try to take care of those trees so they don't become hazardous. I also believe that the budget back in the 90's was cut and you lost a lot of the Parks Department crews so the crew has really been minimized and I just wanted to make that clear. We also have a lot of information on that inventory if you would like it.

Alderman Thibault stated I would just like to have a clarification from the City Solicitor as to what exactly our responsibilities are. This lady is taking about trees that the City is responsible for. What are you talking about trees that are on the sidewalks? We are not responsible according to the City Solicitor.

Solicitor Clark responded I didn't say we weren't responsible. I said we weren't liable. If a tree is damaged or there is a danger we are supposed to take care of it.

Alderman Thibault stated okay maybe I misunderstood. I'm sorry.

Alderman Shea stated I am wondering could we vote this either up or down your Honor.

Mayor Guinta responded that is what I was just going to say. I suspect that...I want to give everyone an opportunity to talk about the different line items.

Alderman Shea asked are we going to take it later on you mean or couldn't we take it now.

Mayor Guinta answered the motion on the floor is on the report so if you have questions on the different line items let's try to get through them as expeditiously as we can.

Alderman Shea stated well we spent ½ hour or 35 minutes on this one.

Mayor Guinta replied I will quicken the pace.

Alderman Shea stated people know how they are going to vote, your Honor. They are either going to vote up or down. I don't know whether or not it is going to...

Mayor Guinta interjected I would be more than happy to entertain a vote now.

Alderman Shea moved...

Mayor Guinta interjected well there is a motion on the floor already so let me ask a couple of more questions and then we can take a vote if everyone so desires.

Alderman Gatsas asked did the Task Force spend time with you discussing your line items.

Mr. DePrima answered not with me.

Alderman Gatsas asked with the department.

Mr. DePrima answered I don't believe they came to Ron either.

Alderman Gatsas asked how did they come up with their conclusion on some of these numbers. Do you know?

Mr. DePrima replied I can't answer that.

Alderman Gatsas asked is there anyone here from the Task Force that can give us an answer.

Alderman Smith stated I would like to answer the question for Parks & Recreation. To begin with the department was never consulted by the Task Force. It is right in their letter.

Mayor Guinta stated I know that...are you asking me what interaction the Task Force had with the departments. They were provided the budget books. I had told them that they can address this as they saw fit and they provided me with a report. I saw the report almost the same time as you did.

Alderman Lopez asked they weren't invited to this meeting.

Mayor Guinta answered I believe they were but obviously we have had other issues that we were dealing with so I am not sure. Again, it is \$415,000. The Board has to make a decision whether we want to move in this direction or not. My purpose in this was because of the veto of the car registration fee there were some questions as to how that was going to impact the tax rate. I thought it was important to put a group together to try to identify recommendations and suggestions for this Board. I would like to reduce the tax rate as much as possible so these are recommendations. I think that we should either vote it up or down, yes or no. I know everyone on the list is going to oppose or have concerns with a reduction in their budget. We are charged with making that responsible decision and whether we feel that we should be making the decision or not.

Alderman DeVries asked your Honor are you still standing by the recommendations of the Task Force.

Mayor Guinta answered yes. I could make an argument to keep every one of them but the fact remains that we are trying to live within a certain means so my recommendation would be to pass it in its entirety.

Alderman Forest stated I think myself as well as a lot of the Aldermen here would like to reduce the tax rate too but I just don't want to start cutting numbers from departments and then having to put them back to get a lower tax rate two weeks from now. I would like some answers to a lot of these questions. The Task Force that implemented them is not here. I can go in the book and come up with numbers too but it doesn't mean that these figures are right or that we would save on them. I think for me what I would like to do is just make a motion that we table it for another time and get the Task Force here to answer questions on this. The department heads have written us letters. Now we need to hear from the Task Force and from some of the department heads who are not here.

Alderman Forest moved to table. Alderman Thibault duly seconded the motion. Alderman Gatsas requested a roll call. Aldermen Gatsas, Long, Duval, Osborne, Pinard, Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Garrity, Smith, and Roy voted nay. Aldermen Thibault and Forest voted yea. The motion failed.

Alderman Shea stated I want to mention, your Honor, that of all of the different situations that come up, I never received so many calls when this hit the newspaper today because people are interested in the little things. They are not interested in the big things and it makes a lot of sense to people who have different limbs, whether it be on Oakland Avenue or whether it be on other streets in my ward...these are the people that are concerned about this particular problem. We are talking about \$20,000. If they have to operate with a budget that is decreased and we are running around trying to scrounge money from whatever areas of their particular budget that we have to eat into, I don't think it makes any sense. People are more interested in the little things, your Honor. They are not interested in the big things. They are interested in the impact that it is going to have on their particular life and the safety of the children walking to school and the safety of elderly people visiting them in cars and so forth. So I would like to get a vote right now whether the Aldermen favor this or are opposed to it and I would like a roll call as to whether we accept this as it is or keep the budget at \$40,000.

Deputy City Clerk Johnson stated there is a motion on the floor.

Mayor Guinta asked are you calling the question.

Alderman Shea stated whatever it is. I would like to call the question and I would like to make a motion that we accept the hazardous tree removal budget at \$40,000.

Mayor Guinta stated there is already an existing motion on the floor. I am not going to accept that motion at the moment. I would like to finish discussion on that and vote this up or down.

Alderman Lopez stated I was just going to go down the line but I think I can see where we are going. We have all of the correspondence from Intown, who has worked over three or four years trying to do something in the Millyard and downtown and we want to cut their budget. I worked with them for about three years and I think when you were an Alderman in Ward 3 you also worked with them. I think it is important that the maintenance be done in the Millyard area and downtown. The sign inspection and maintenance line item is an ongoing thing. These are things that we have that we haven't been able to do in the budget as it is. I think Alderman O'Neil mentioned that one of the items at the Police Department is that they need air conditioning and heat in one particular room and we are going to cut their budget. This is the worst of all evils that we have to maintain maintenance. It is going to cost us. It is going to cost us in the future. We learned that lesson with the schools. We learned that lesson with JFK Coliseum for 20 years. Now it is costing us a lot of money. It just doesn't seem...we went through a three month process and then two individuals are put on a Task Force and throw some numbers out there without even talking to department heads. Incidentals. I am told by the correspondence we received from the City Solicitor...how is he going to operate and how is the City Clerk going to operate with the mandates for voting and stuff like that? Those are the tough decisions we have to make. I understand your position in saying...we all want to lower the taxes as much as possible. My God nobody likes to pay taxes period but we have 150,000 in this City. We have a major corporation here and we are talking about nickels and dimes when it comes to the overall budget.

Mayor Guinta stated I do have to say that this is in direct response to the comments that you made about my veto of the car registration fee.

Alderman Lopez replied let me finish please. You are interrupting me when I have the floor and I don't like it.

Mayor Guinta responded well you know what, I have the floor and I will tell you why. Because you cannot have it both ways Alderman. You sat in this room and criticized me for vetoing a fee increase that you proposed. I put a committee together. Here are the results. We can vote it up or down. It is up to you. I am putting it before this Board. Let's take a vote up or down. If you don't want to accept this then vote it down. I don't like making tough decisions but we have to do it everyday. I support...again I can make a very persuasive argument why every single dollar here should stay but I can also make an equally persuasive argument as to why we need to cut taxes here in this City. So let's take the vote. Everybody can vote how they feel is appropriate and let the people in the City who are watching decide if we are making the right decisions or not.

Alderman Lopez stated your Honor we are making the right decisions. We put a budget together. Yes you did veto it and that \$300,000 for registration fees should have been in there.

Mayor Guinta replied no it shouldn't have been because it is a tax...

Alderman Lopez interjected there you go. You keep interrupting. You know, your Honor, I would appreciate with all due respect that when you give an Alderman the floor let them finish. We don't interrupt you and just because you have the hammer up there doesn't make you the almighty.

Mayor Guinta responded Alderman you are out of order. We will move the question. Is everyone clear on the question?

Alderman Gatsas requested a roll call vote.

Alderman O'Neil asked can I get clarification on what the question is.

Deputy City Clerk Johnson stated the motion on the floor is to accept the report in its entirety.

Alderman Shea asked your Honor after this is done can we then vote specifically on certain items.

Mayor Guinta answered let's see how this vote goes.

Alderman Roy asked for clarification either to the Chair or the Clerk. Accept the report, does that mean we accept it and we are enacting all of their recommendations or we are accepting it and thanking them for a job well done?

Deputy City Clerk Johnson answered you are accepting it and enacting the recommendations.

Alderman O'Neil asked are we allowed to make statements at all.

Mayor Guinta answered we called the question.

Aldermen Gatsas, Duval, Pinard, DeVries, and Garrity voted yea. Aldermen Long, Osborne, O'Neil, Lopez, Shea, Smith, Thibault, Forest and Roy voted nay. The motion failed.

Alderman Roy stated while I agree with Alderman Gatsas that we are at the point where we should just walk away from this, months and months of time go into our budget and for us to look at 10 or 12 items that a select group pulled out of our budget to make changes to adjust our tax rate I think is looking at a very small portion of what our jobs are so I would ask this Board and the Chair to possibly...now that we have looked at this and received the departmental responses let's have a meeting whether it is this week or next week to look at entire budget adjustments. As I asked Parks & Recreation, the hazardous tree removal would have taken \$20,000 out of their budget. Right now they have an equipment line item of \$51,000 that hasn't been touched and a special projects line item at \$45,000 so they may be able to come back to us as a department with a larger savings than \$20,000 that they can absorb without impacting our constituents. So I would ask that now that we have this and the departmental responses that we have a special meeting and come back and review the entire budget and savings prior to the tax rate being set.

Alderman Garrity asked are we allowed to open up the budget at this point because that is basically...

Solicitor Clark interjected you wouldn't be opening the budget. If you were doing anything, you would be directing departments not to spend money.

Alderman Garrity asked this being a special meeting we either...I am looking at Item 4 and it is to consider recommendations by the Savings Task Force. Do we either vote for it or not vote for it.

Mayor Guinta stated well it has been voted on.

Alderman Gatsas moved to adjourn.

Mayor Guinta stated prior to accepting that let me get through this.

Alderman Roy stated so I respectfully move that we have a special meeting to discuss the tax rate within the next 10 days.

Mayor Guinta responded I am not going to accept that motion.

Alderman Shea stated there are certain items on this particular list that I am in favor of. The items that I am in favor of are 811107, Performance Based Management. I feel that we can eliminate the \$50,000 rather than leaving \$30,000. That is my suggestion. Employee training we can remove in my judgement \$10,000 from that particular item to bring it down to \$22,000. As far as the Bridge Maintenance of \$17,000 Frank Thomas has already removed that. That is another \$17,000. As far as the Electricity, that is \$50,000 that has been removed by him. I hope someone is taking the tallies here but that is another \$50,000.

I would say that out of the Incidentals we could remove \$10,000 from that so that would bring it down to \$26,000. There are certain items on this particular list that we can approve or disapprove as a Board if you agree to that suggestion rather than people deciding to leave or whatever.

Mayor Guinta stated I appreciate your interest in still trying to reduce the tax rate because I know...

Alderman Shea interjected I have another suggestion as well your Honor. I am making a suggestion that we add \$1 to the registration fee because for every \$1 a homeowner will get back \$2. So I am suggesting that that is a tax reduction if you are interested in a tax reduction. I would say that would be a prudent move on our part. If we are willing to spend \$1 to get some back...again these are suggestions that I felt would be helpful. So in disapproving some of these items, I am disapproving them for the benefit of my constituents but I am also favoring certain deductions that would be beneficial to my constituents and that is my reasoning. Can you react to that your Honor if you would?

Mayor Guinta replied sure. I think the registration fee is a regressive tax and I don't support it. I guess we don't share that view so I cannot in good conscience support that. Relative to ideas that can come from Aldermen, we have some additional time if you want to make recommendations for the next Board meeting. I don't know if it will be in time for the tax rate setting but I certainly welcome at any time of the year recommendations from any member of this Board to be more efficient and continue good service to the citizens of this City and to try to reduce the tax rate. If there is general consensus prior to the tax rate being set and you want to have a special meeting, I would certainly entertain it.

Alderman Shea asked are you in favor of some of the...like Frank Thomas saying he can live with the \$17,000 deduction and the \$50,000 deduction. Are you for that or is it we either accept the Task Force recommendations in their totality or...

Mayor Guinta interjected the agenda tonight calls for a vote on the Task Force recommendations. I don't know if we are prepared tonight to have multiple proposals come from multiple Aldermen.

Alderman Shea stated but this is part of what they were suggesting.

Mayor Guinta replied what I said earlier was I would recommend these savings to be identified and voted on and supported this evening.

Alderman Shea responded what I am trying to do is break this down.

Mayor Guinta stated I understand that.

Alderman Shea stated that is what I was trying to do before so that either we go along with some of these things or we don't. In other words, if Frank Thomas is willing to go along with a reduction of \$67,000 are we going to say we don't want to do that?

Mayor Guinta responded if a department head realizes that he or she doesn't have to spend the amount of appropriated funds that can be reflected prior to the tax rate being set. Is that correct?

Randy Sherman, Deputy Finance Director, stated yes if the Board gives a directive to not spend funds that in turn creates fund balances that we can use to apply against the tax rate.

Mayor Guinta stated we can address that as an ongoing issue. If a department head is coming in here and telling this Board that they are not going to spend as much as they have been appropriated, let's get it in writing and make sure that it impacts properly on the tax rate.

Alderman Garrity stated I would like to respond to Alderman Shea. I just want to comment about adding \$1 to the registration fee. You cut taxes by reducing spending. You don't cut taxes by adding new fees. The only way to cut taxes is to reduce spending and not by adding new fees.

Alderman Shea responded my point is that if somebody puts \$1 down for a registration and their tax rate for that \$1 is reduced \$2 then I think that is a wise investment and I am here to help the taxpayers reduce their taxes. I don't find that to be regressive because basically if they are spending \$1 to register their car and getting \$2 back that is a bonus as far as I am concerned. I was brought up to watch my nickels. I am as much of a watch dog as others here on the Board.

Alderman Lopez stated at this time I would like to have unanimous consent for the Mayor to bring in a new item of business.

Alderman O'Neil asked so we are not bringing up any of these individual items.

Mayor Guinta answered no.

Alderman Osborne duly seconded the motion to bring in an item of new business.

Alderman DeVries stated your Honor I think you should take the items individually. It may be a few nickels and dimes but it is taxpayer's dollars and we have an opportunity to reduce those dollars tonight. I agreed with you and voted with you on the full allotment but if we can even pass a piece of that tonight I think we owe it to the taxpayers and let's do that. So I

would appeal to the Board. If you vetoed allowing Alderman Shea's motion and I don't know if that was ever a formal motion but I will make the motion again that you accept from the Task Force reductions of \$137,000 as outlined by Alderman Shea. I can outline those again for you. That would be \$50,000 from the Performance Based Management and I am sure you will respond if there is a need to maintain the \$20,000. I just haven't heard it. The Employee Training & Development – taking \$10,000 from there; \$17,000 from Bridge Maintenance; \$10,000 from Incidentals and \$50,000 from Electricity.

Alderman O'Neil stated \$50,000 from street lighting is what I think they referred to.

Alderman DeVries responded thank you for correcting that. I believe that totals \$137,000 and I would make that a motion.

Alderman O'Neil asked for a clarification.

Mayor Guinta stated in fairness if...I am trying to figure it out but it looks like there is some general consensus and I would prefer to give the opportunity of a motion to Alderman Shea since he first brought it up.

Alderman Shea moved to approve the reductions of \$137,000 as outlined above. Alderman DeVries duly seconded the motion.

Alderman O'Neil stated one of the items...the number that was presented in the Employee Training if I recall in the memo from Ms. Lamberton was they had already spent some of the money so there wasn't \$32,000 available. There was actually only \$20,965. Am I correct on that?

Virginia Lamberton, Human Resources Director, stated that is correct.

Alderman O'Neil stated so I am just pointing that out. I would like to have on the Sign Inspection and Maintenance to have Mr. Sheppard to come up for a minute. I know they have already incurred some expenses of \$7,500.

Alderman DeVries stated it wasn't included in this motion. It could be.

Alderman O'Neil replied that is what I am trying to do is get others to include here. What is on this sheet does not agree with what Ginny sent or what Kevin sent. Kevin on the request for Sign Inspection the Task Force had recommended \$25,000. In a letter from you you said that you already included \$7,750.

Kevin Sheppard, Deputy Public Works Director, stated yes. I talked to Randy. Randy actually approached me a little bit earlier. I am not too sure but for some reason that isn't

showing up in the system so that Committee may not have had that information. That is encumbered. We do have a contract for that amount.

Alderman O'Neil asked if the balance was not available what happens.

Mr. Sheppard answered right now that is 5 out of the 16 sign structures in the City that were built anywhere between 1962 and 1983. If, during the inspection of those sign structures, they do find areas that need repair...it is a specialized type of welding working with aluminum and last year when we did the Amoskeag for the ones down by the Armory it was about \$10,000 in repairs for that sign structure. If there is damage or work that needed to be done to them there would be no money to do that repair work.

Alderman O'Neil stated obviously if it is something we can put off fine but if we have one of these structures collapse...that is my concern. Is there some medium ground here or not on that particular item? That is what I am looking for some help on. I don't think we can cut it all out based on what I heard but I believe we can cut some of it out.

Alderman Osborne asked on the \$10,000 you are taking away from Incidentals, where would that be coming from. What department?

Mayor Guinta stated it is an incidental line.

Alderman Osborne replied I understand but doesn't it cover the City Clerk and City Solicitor's Office and so on and so forth. Who is going to take the brunt of the \$10,000 cut is what I am trying to find out?

Solicitor Clark stated your Honor four departments have incidental lines. This report recommends taking money out of three of the departments and reducing it to \$1,000 a piece.

Mayor Guinta stated so Solicitor, City Clerk and HR.

Solicitor Clark responded yes and as far as the Solicitor's Office goes, that is the money we use to file court appeals and pay witness fees and pay stenographers fees and to get transcripts. Any time we go to court we have to file a fee and that is where the money comes from. It is not just a miscellaneous account. It is a legal expense account. For us to have to come back to the Board every time we make a filing fee, that is not going to work.

Alderman O'Neil asked which department is not listed. The Solicitor said there were four departments that had incidental line items.

Mr. Sherman stated the fourth department is the Finance Department.

Alderman Osborne stated I would be against this \$10,000. I can't see doing this to these departments for this amount of money. That would be one that I couldn't agree with. I can agree with electricity and other ones but for such a small amount for the little departments like this and what they need it for I think it is ridiculous.

Alderman Gatsas stated we have a \$118 million budget here and we are looking at a 0.0035 reduction. 0.0035%. If we make the reduction today we see a tax rate cut because obviously we know we can't make the essentials that we were looking for when we came out with the budget. It gives us nine months to look at those numbers and see if we can move monies around from other departments to help out the departments that are participating. It is a 0.0035%. Or we can make a 0.0035% across the board cut so that we know we have got \$415,000 that we are going into DRA with to make sure that we can get numbers that make sense with tax rates. Now those are the two choices. I think it is pretty easy to make that decision. Now if we want to make that 0.0035% cut across the board to all departments and tell them to freeze that gives you the money and Randy is that the easiest way of doing it?

Mr. Sherman replied it certainly is one way to do it.

Alderman Gatsas stated that is the simplest way is 0.0035%. That gets you \$414,000 in cuts so the tax rate goes down and we move forward.

Mayor Guinta stated there is already a motion on the floor and if that one fails I will accept that one.

Alderman Osborne stated again this small amount for these small departments, how is that going to affect them. Do you want to start calling them up one at a time now to let us know this can't be sent out and this can't be done for a \$10,000 bill?

Mayor Guinta responded that is why I suggested that if there are other alternatives to be presented that should be worked out and we should come back and have a meeting. I know that there is some interest here to reduce taxes but to get the majority of the members of this group to agree on components of this is challenging. I certainly don't have a problem with adjourning and if someone wants to bring an idea forward that you feel is in the best interest of the City and has the votes, I would be happy to call a meeting. Again, this is working on behalf of people in the City who pay taxes. If we can get general consensus on something I will call a meeting and have a tax cut party. I have no problem with that.

Alderman DeVries stated I will withdraw my second from the motion on the table to allow for another motion to be made.

Mayor Guinta asked is the first removed.

Alderman Shea answered yes sure but what I would like to do is get some more elaboration by Alderman Gatsas so that I understand what the impact is going to be in terms of all of the departments and whether they know anything about it. Could you explain?

Alderman Gatsas responded with all due respect Alderman Shea I just took a simple number...I took \$414,000 because that is what the Task Force brought before us and I have a little bit of a problem that the Task Force didn't talk to departments...I think that we have the leeway as Board members here that if we want to just say we want to cut the budget by \$414,000, which is and maybe the City Finance Officer can tell me what that percentage is...

Mr. Sherman interjected are you taking it off just the departments or off the entire budget.

Alderman Gatsas responded off of the entire budget of \$118 million.

Mr. Sherman the 0.035% gives you \$411,000.

Alderman Gatsas stated so whatever that distribution is by department is 0.0035%.

Alderman DeVries asked is that a motion.

Alderman Gatsas answered yes.

Alderman DeVries duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Shea asked could you explain to me...a memo is going to go out to each department asking them what.

Mr. Sherman answered I think what the Alderman is suggesting is that we take 0.0035 off of the bottom line, which actually if you apply that just to the department line it is just over 0.004 because clearly we can't take things out of like debt services and those types of line items. We would do a calculation and we would tell the departments how much out of their budget they would have to reduce.

Alderman Shea asked now some departments would be affected more than others right.

Mr. Sherman answered yes. Clearly Police, Fire and Highway would take the majority of the hit. They are roughly 20% of the number each. So they are in the \$75,000 or \$80,000 amount.

Mayor Guinta stated I haven't accepted the motion yet.

Alderman Gatsas stated obviously it is going to be under your jurisdiction because the salary adjustment account is going to be there and Fire and Police need to be taken care of. The burden is going to be on you to make sure you adjust it.

Mayor Guinta asked is that a motion.

Alderman Gatsas answered yes.

Mayor Guinta stated I will accept it.

Alderman Garrity duly seconded the motion.

Alderman O'Neil asked could we get what the effect is on the departments. Are we saying Police is in or are they out? Are we saying Fire is in or out of this? Is Highway in or out of this? At Highway we allowed them to do something special. We told them to take their budget and live within it. I don't know that this is the best approach.

Mayor Guinta responded again that is why I reiterated earlier that if there is a plan that has general consensus I would be happy to call another special meeting.

Alderman O'Neil asked can we get a breakdown. We know Police has had vacancies. There has to be some savings. They are not spending salary. Before we cut them more, are there savings there already?

Mayor Guinta answered there are but not necessarily for tax rate setting purposes. This is for tax rate setting purposes.

Alderman Gatsas stated Alderman O'Neil it may not affect them at all because you are right they have vacancies and that \$75,000 may have accumulated since July 1 and they may have \$250,000 sitting there. All we are doing is looking at a number and it may not affect them.

Alderman O'Neil responded my problem is that I would like to hear from the departments. We are obviously not going to hear that tonight. This may have little impact and not affect a thing or it may have a devastating impact. I don't know.

Alderman Roy stated I will go back to what I said before. We should have a special meeting if we are going to talk about other budgets. Just to answer Alderman O'Neil's question, the Police Department's budget is \$22,795,000. This 0.004% is a \$91,000 cut to the Police Department. I, for one, cannot vote for that tonight. No matter how badly I want to cut the tax rate if we talk about across the board then we should talk about specific line items in every budget and put our priorities where our priorities need to be and I don't think that can be done basing our number on what the savings committee came out with and arbitrary

percentages across the board. I think we need to sit down, take an evening, have some coffee, spend the night here and put together a good number by Friday.

Alderman Osborne asked why don't we do that. Why don't we get a response from every department? We are starting a budget all over again here for \$400,000+ and see how these departments will be affected. I think we need an answer and we can have that special meeting you were talking about. This is the way we should do it. Let's end it tonight and go home.

Alderman Thibault stated I agree with Alderman Gatsas to some extent and I agree with Alderman O'Neil about the fact that Fire and Police have to be really protected but also Highway. We gave him the right to go ahead and do his thing and now we are cutting him again. I think that if we had the ideal situation with every department as to where they are at after we do this then where are we. If you have to call a special meeting then fine. I think we should be here and we should look at that. I think that everybody on this Board, your Honor, is looking to cut taxes. Please let's not make that mistake that somebody is not. Everybody on this Board is looking to lower the taxes.

Alderman DeVries stated I would ask you on the salary adjustment account...have you had to utilize that account yet.

Mayor Guinta responded no.

Alderman DeVries stated Alderman Lopez helped my recollection. That is about \$400,000 that we put into the budget and we are about halfway through the budget year.

Mayor Guinta replied technically yes I haven't used it but it is probably early to start determining how that is going to have to be utilized. If you put me on the spot today and ask are we going to use that entire \$400,000 I would say the answer is yes. Realistically I probably won't have that conversation with this Board for another three months because we have to get a better indication of where the revenues are. Right now the revenues are challenging at best. We have the money in the account. How we disburse that and when it is disbursed is another question. If you are asking me today do I anticipate having to use that the answer is yes.

Alderman DeVries stated I have a follow-up to that because it is unfortunate that we are today carrying...I think it is 24 vacancies at the Police Department and those are funded...

Mayor Guinta interjected yes they are funded. That is for a whole different reason. Those are funded and we are having challenges in trying to get qualified people, which we are trying to address but it is not a funding issue.

Alderman DeVries asked but because of those vacancies and we know there is such a lead time in getting them hired it just makes me wonder if we can somehow make a reduction as the motion has been stated and somehow leave some flexibility there so that the determination is made by you as you go through the year and later in the year you actually decide which departments you are encumbering with the reduction of the dollars so that if you see there are these excess because of the positions that aren't filled you can make the reduction there so that it is not cutting any vital services in the City like Police or Fire. I am wondering if we can't go ahead with the motion this evening with a fair assumption that it doesn't have to be a cut of vital services and allow you to manage that dollar amount.

Mayor Guinta responded I think that is a fair assumption.

Alderman DeVries stated I am sure you agree with me that you are never going to be making the cuts in vital public safety. I think that was clear through our budget. None of us wanted those cuts.

Mayor Guinta replied yes that is clear.

Alderman Shea stated I was just looking at this sheet. Now if the Highway Department needs to reduce so much money can they use the two items that they have here...\$50,000 for streetlights and \$17,000? They are all set then I assume. I don't know. Our statistician over there can figure out what impact it would be if they were charged that amount.

Mayor Guinta asked are you referring to Alderman Gatsas or Randy Sherman.

Alderman Shea answered I was actually referring to Alderman Roy who came up with the statistics but I am sure there is more than one statistician in the group your Honor. Judging from what we are discussing tonight everyone is a statistician.

Alderman Smith asked Randy when do we have to go to DRA.

Mr. Sherman answered we have an appointment at DRA for next Wednesday, which means our forms should be up there by Friday.

Alderman Smith stated I think a lot of it is communication. Why don't we ask each department head to look over their budget very closely and see if they can get personal savings and come to us with a figure because otherwise it might be even worse for the departments? The department head can make his recommendation to save \$10,000 or \$15,000 and maybe we will be able to get to the figure that you are looking at but we have to communicate and we have to act together and my suggestion as long as everybody is here is if we can get everybody to have a meeting next Monday night.

Mayor Guinta stated that will be too late.

Alderman Smith responded he said he didn't have to be there until Wednesday.

Mr. Sherman replied the appointment is on Wednesday but the forms need to be up by Friday.

Mayor Guinta asked this coming Friday.

Mr. Sherman answered yes.

Mayor Guinta stated so it has to be this week. So the meeting would have to be this week.

Alderman Smith stated it will have to be Thursday then.

Alderman Garrity moved to move the motion.

Alderman O'Neil asked what is the motion on the floor.

Deputy City Clerk Johnson answered to reduce the department's budgets by 0.004%.

Mayor Guinta stated and that equals a dollar amount of...

Alderman Gatsas interjected \$414,000 or \$411,000.

Alderman Lopez asked and that does not include Police, Fire or Highway.

Deputy City Clerk Johnson answered yes it does. With the .004% it does. It is across the board.

Alderman Lopez asked and if you take money away from those departments where is the money going to come from – contingency or salary adjustment.

Alderman Gatsas asked can I respond to Alderman Lopez. There are 15 vacancies at Police. If we use a number of \$45,000 times 15 and divide it by 12 times three months or the three months that have already lapsed and that is without benefits or anything else, that is \$675,000 over a 12 month period divided by 12 times 3 is roughly almost \$20,000 and I think that is probably low. It is \$20,000 for the first three months that have been vacant without any police officers if you divide it over a 12-month period if they filled them tomorrow.

Mayor Guinta asked \$20,000 for what.

Alderman Gatsas answered without benefits. Maybe Ginny can answer.

Ms. Lamberton stated I may not be helpful to where you are going but please be reminded that we have had a considerable number of retirements in the Police Department and when we have people retire, we have large pay outs and I would guess we will see some more retirements. Also when we have vacancies we also need coverage on the streets so then we have to hire Police Officers to work in a position that normally would be straight time at time and a half. So I would think that the Police Chief would be very concerned about giving up any money at this point in his budget.

Alderman Lopez stated maybe Randy can help me here...

Mayor Guinta interjected the question was called and this was a point of order question. If you have a clarifying question I will accept it but the question has been called.

Alderman Lopez stated I think it is clarifying if you will allow me. Randy, is the idea that we are going to take this reduction in spending and that is the policy and when you go up there that is what you are going to report. You are not going to report where it is going to come from correct?

Mr. Sherman replied when we report to DRA we report by category so there is a line for Police and a line for Fire and a line for Highway so, yes, we will have to go back and take it out on each one and show that these are the reductions that are in turn going to create fund balance at the end of the day.

Alderman Lopez asked in the end if we are hurting the Fire Department or Police Department then we are going to have to find money in some other location.

Mayor Guinta answered that is correct.

Alderman Forest stated I have a point of order for the Solicitor. I may be wrong here but I think for the last 45 minutes we have gone beyond Item 4. I just need an answer on the point of order to Item 4 on the agenda tonight.

Solicitor Clark stated I think it is within the prerogative of the Board to discuss the savings because it is all within the spirit of the report.

Mayor Guinta stated so the question has been called...

Alderman DeVries interjected point of clarification. Your Honor you did indicate that you would not allow any kind of damaging reductions to Police or Fire correct?

Mayor Guinta replied correct.

Alderman DeVries stated I just want the Board to be sure they are hearing that going into this vote.

Alderman Roy asked for clarification. Alderman Gatsas or yourself can answer this. If we can take \$400,000 out of our budget, why would we not take it out of non-departmental items like the salary adjustment account and not ask our department heads to go through this exercise. With just Police, Fire and Highway we are at \$300,000 of the \$400,000 in savings. If you think we can do this without significantly impacting the budget...I don't see how you take the top two departments out of that and don't severely impact the budget. I would rather take the \$400,000 out of salary adjustment.

Alderman Garrity stated I don't believe that is a point of order.

Alderman Roy responded I respectfully disagree.

Mayor Guinta called for a vote on the motion to reduce all department's budgets by 0.004%. Alderman Gatsas requested a roll call vote. Aldermen Gatsas, Pinard, Shea, DeVries and Garrity voted yea. Aldermen Long, Duval, Osborne, O'Neil, Lopez, Smith, Thibault, Forest, and Roy voted nay. The motion failed.

Alderman Shea stated I would like to bring up my particular proposal again your Honor.

Mayor Guinta responded I am not going to accept any additional motions. Here is what I am going to do because we are going to do this all night. Until we have some sort of consensus and I think if anyone wants to bring something in and work with me about calling a special meeting sometime later this week I will be happy to do it but I don't think it is appropriate for us to continue trying proposal after proposal when it is clear we don't have general consensus.

Alderman Shea stated maybe you would on this, your Honor. It was brought up before and you were going to take a vote. In deference I removed it and I would like to make it again.

Mayor Guinta asked is it the same proposal.

Alderman Shea answered yes and we can vote on that and I will ask for a roll call. Alderman DeVries duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Osborne asked does this still include the \$10,000 from Incidentals.

Mayor Guinta stated I want to clarify the motion. Do you have it from earlier?

Deputy City Clerk Johnson asked are we going back to the \$137,000.

Alderman Shea answered yes.

Deputy City Clerk Johnson stated the motion would be to reduce \$10,000 from Employee Training and Development, \$50,000 from Performance Based Management, \$17,000 from Bridge Maintenance, \$10,000 from Incidentals and that includes three departments so I am not sure how that breaks out, and \$50,000 from Electricity.

Alderman Shea stated in order to get the vote from Ward 5 I will amend my motion and not remove \$10,000 from Incidentals.

Alderman DeVries duly seconded the motion as amended.

Deputy City Clerk Johnson stated so the total amount would be \$127,000.

Mayor Guinta called for a vote on the motion as amended. Alderman Shea requested a roll call vote. Aldermen Shea, DeVries, Smith, Thibault, Roy, Osborne, O'Neil and Lopez voted yea. Aldermen Garrity, Forest, Gatsas, Long, Duval and Pinard voted nay. The motion carried.

Alderman Lopez called for a motion of unanimous consent to bring in a new item of business. Alderman Shea duly seconded the motion. Mayor Guinta called for a vote. The motion failed as Alderman Forest was duly recorded in opposition.

This being a special meeting of the Board, no further business was presented and on motion of Alderman Gatsas, duly seconded by Alderman Thibault it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk